C-RE40

End-of-Course Assessments

December - January / A1 Testing Window

NEWSLETTER

ECAs are available for the following content areas in 2007-08:
Algebra I, Algebra II, English 11, and Biology I

Purpose of Core 40 ECAs

As part of Indiana's school accountability system under Public Law 221, Core 40 End-of-Course Assessments (ECAs) are designed to ensure the quality, consistency, and rigor of Core 40 courses across the state. Aligned with Indiana's Academic Standards, End-of-Course Assessments are final exams measuring what students know and are able to do upon completion of targeted Core 40 courses. In addition, the End-of-Course Assessments are an integral component of Indiana's P-16 Plan for Improving Student Achievement. As a part of this vision, these exams would serve an additional purpose of providing valuable information for college placement.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodations for the ECAs will be based upon those observed for ISTEP+. Generally, that means that a student will receive the same testing accommodations as those that occur throughout the student's educational program. Refer to the Core 40 ECA Test Administration Manual for the full listing of online accommodations:

http://doe.state.in.us/core40eca/pdf/onlinetestingmanual.pdf

TEST SECURITY

Teachers and students will not be given advance knowledge of the test content prior to the administration, and testing materials may not be copied or printed. ECA material may not be saved or disseminated in hardcopy or electronic format.

ONLINE PRACTICE TESTS

Before Testing:

https://incore40eca.questarai.com/practice
Once Testing Begins:

https://incore40eca.guestarai.com

WHAT'S NEW FOR ECAS...

★ Two Vendors:

Questar will deliver Core 40 ECAs ACT will deliver Quality Core* ECAs

★ Cut scores for Algebra II & Biology I Core 40 ECAs:

Standards' Setting was completed in 2007. Scale Scores will be reported for each student, as well as a Performance Level Descriptor of Did Not Pass, Pass, or Pass+.

* IDOE Data Collection - Benefits for Schools:

This allows corporations to upload class rosters for each ECA testing window. Barcode labels can be created for Paper-and-Pencil tests (no bubbling for students!), online class folders are set up for teachers, and students are preregistered for the tests!

★ Score Reports released on 12/27 for A1!

MATERIALS NEEDED ON TESTING DAY

- Test Examiner Password
- TimerPencils
- Calculator (for Algebra I or II)
- Indiana STN 4 digit School Number
- Scratch Paper (collected and destroyed after test!)
 - 1. For Core 40 Courses throughout the state, ECAs are designed to ensure

A. quality

B. consistency

C. rigor

D. all of the above

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Via Email: Core40Support@questarai.com

Via Phone: 1-877-424-0322

*ACT QualityCore ECAs



ACT introduced QualityCoreTM, an instructional improvement program designed to help ensure that the outcomes of high school preparatory courses are aligned with essential postsecondary skills. The Assessments are designed to ensure that outcomes of high school core preparatory courses are aligned with college readiness standards. QC provides teachers with model lessons, model units, formative assessment item pools, and end-of-course assessments to help improve the quality, consistency, and rigor of core preparatory courses. Visit http://www.act.org/qualitycore/indiana/for an Examiner's Manual and more information.

Questions: Contact ACT for information regarding these assessments at 1-866-764-7228